

Memo from

To: G W Beadle

JOSHUA LEDERBERG

10/17/76

Dear Beets

I am glad we are now in agreement how to respond in re a memoir on Ed; and I will get started with a view to having a draft in, say, about 6 months.

Thank you particularly for enlarging on your recollections of your own inputs to Ed in re working on bacteria. I was aware that you were encouraging him to take a more independent line; I did not know before that recombination (a la Gowen & Lincoln) was that explicitly in mind; and Ed was always quite vague about that.

It has been invaluable to be able to find old letters, etc. that can document sometimes vague memories on my own part-- (like the one enclosed, which I may or may not have sent you before.) You told me that most of your own papers from the '40s had been discarded in the course of various moves; but I wonder if you can think of ANY significant exceptions. I will be glad to try to track down any depots at Stanford or Caltech that could be useful. And needless to say, I would be careful to check with you about any public use of any such material.

One point I am trying to understand better myself is the circumstance of Ed's leaving Stanford for Yale in '45 : is it that he was not offered a tenure position here at that time? Or did you encourage him to accept an independent situation before you yourself knew you were going to Caltech? Or

x 9/19/45

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Memo from

To:

JOSHUA LEDERBERG

did your leaving concurrently signify the overall poverty of support that Stanford in those days was willing to put into frontier biological research?

Do let me suggest the telephone as a possibly more congenial medium to dispose of these kinds of questions: but I leave it to you to set a convenient occasion that does not interrupt the work I know you are delighted to be engaged in.

Yours

Josh

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You know, one of my regrets is that we have never had the opportunity for the closer personal association that many people take for granted in the view of the confluence of our work. I don't have to tell you that I have always been an admiring follower from the very start of my career, and that I had regarded the few occasions that we actually did meet as a rare privilege.

*Josh*

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